



March 7, 2016

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION No. 32

DIGEST OF RESOLUTION

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION proposing that the “Say’s Firefly” be designated as Indiana’s State insect.

Alting

(HOUSE SPONSORS — TRUITT, KLINKER)

February 11, 2016 , read first time and referred to Committee on Public Policy.
February 25, 2016, reported favorably — Do Pass.
March 1, 2016, read second time, adopted by voice vote.

HOUSE ACTION

March 7, 2016, read first time and referred to Committee on Natural Resources.



March 7, 2016

Second Regular Session 119th General Assembly (2016)

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION No. 32

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION proposing that the “Say’s
2 Firefly” be designated as Indiana’s State insect.

3 *Whereas, Insects constitute 80 percent of the world's*
4 *animal species and are critical to the ecological balance of our*
5 *planet as decomposers, recyclers, pollinators of flowering*
6 *plants, and are an important food source for many animals and*
7 *even some plants;*

8 *Whereas, The insect known as a "firefly" or "lightning*
9 *bug," is really neither a fly nor a bug, but rather it is a soft-*
10 *bodied beetle that produces light through a complex chemical*
11 *reaction in special cells located near the end of its abdomen;*

12 *Whereas, Spectacular nighttime displays of the flashing*
13 *lights of fireflies are common from June through September in*
14 *the croplands, roadsides, grasslands, and forests of the eastern*
15 *United States, from the Missouri River to the Atlantic Ocean;*

16 *Whereas, Male fireflies flash their lights in a series of short*
17 *or long bursts to impress female fireflies, and receptive females*
18 *respond with flashes of their own;*

19 *Whereas, Hoosiers have long enjoyed the beauty and*
20 *mystique of firefly displays, which inspired James Whitcomb*
21 *Riley to write:*

22 *"The fireflies, like golden seeds,*

SC 32—RC 1522/DI TC



1 *Are sown about the night.";*

2 *Whereas, Thomas Say, an eminent naturalist who lived and*
3 *worked in New Harmony in Posey County and is considered the*
4 *Father of American Entomology, named "Say's Firefly" in*
5 *1824;*

6 *Whereas, Indiana has a state tree (the tulip poplar), a state*
7 *flower (the peony), and a state bird (the cardinal), but is one of*
8 *only four states that do not recognize the contribution insects*
9 *make to the quality of our lives by having an official state*
10 *insect; and*

11 *Whereas, The designation of a state insect would provide*
12 *a unique teaching opportunity for educators and a point of*
13 *pride for citizens of Indiana: Therefore,*

14 *Be it resolved by the Senate of the General Assembly*
15 *of the State of Indiana, the House of Representatives concurring:*

16 SECTION 1. That the Indiana General Assembly proposes the
17 declaration of the Indiana State insect as the "Say's Firefly," because
18 of the insect's ecological benefits, the lack of a current state insect, and
19 the educational opportunities that the establishment of a state insect
20 would allow.

21 SECTION 2. The Secretary of the Senate is hereby directed to
22 transmit a copy of this Resolution to Cumberland Elementary Teacher,
23 Maggie Samudio.



COMMITTEE REPORT

Madam President: The Senate Committee on Public Policy, to which was referred Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 32, has had the same under consideration and begs leave to report the same back to the Senate with the recommendation that said resolution DO PASS.

(Reference is to SC 32 as introduced.)

ALTING, Chairperson

Committee Vote: Yeas 9, Nays 0

